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Docket No.: MUH-12015 or 2 7000

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 223 13-1450 on the date indicated below.

Ву:\_\_\_\_

Date: October 16, 2003

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applic. No.

10/023,189

Confirmation No: 3326

Applicant

Martin Hierholzer December 17, 2001

Filed Art Unit

2827

Examiner

James M. Mitchell

Docket No.

MUH-12015

Customer No. :

24131

## <u>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</u> <u>UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.97(i)</u>

Hon. Commissioner for Patents

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.98 copies of the following patents and/or publications are submitted herewith:

United States Patent No. 4,825,279 (Furuhata), dated April 25, 1989, and corresponding German Patent DE 37 34 067 C2, dated May 5, 1988;

International Publication WO 00/42656 (Loddenkötter et al.), dated July 20, 2000, and corresponding German Utility Model DE 299 00 370 U1, dated May 20, 1999;

German Examination Report dated January 11, 2000.

It is believed that the enclosed prior art is less pertinent than the prior art previously submitted and cited by the Examiner. Kindly place the references in the Patent Office file wrapper.

Respectfully submitted,

yor Appolicant

Date: October 16, 2003

RALPH E. LOCHER REG. NO. 41,947

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EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.